

Remarks

A. Status

Claims 54-85 are pending in this application.

The claims have been amended to put them into the same form they were in prior to the filing of this continuation. Claims 54-85 correspond to claims 26-51 and 54-59 in the parent case prior to this filing of this continuation application. No new matter has been added.

The Office has previously indicated that the subject matter of these claims is patentable except for an alleged double patenting issue with respect to U.S. Patent Nos. 6,258,576; 5,612,540; and 6,241,662. (*See*, Advisory Action dated April 7, 2003, in parent case). Applicants corrected an assignment associated with U.S. Patent No. 6,241,662 (received by the Patent Office on August 26, 2004) and may be willing to file a terminal disclaimer to overcome the double patenting rejection, if maintained in this continuation application.

Request For Extension Of Time

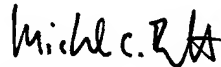
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), Applicants petition for an extension of time of five-months up to and including April 19, 2006, in which to respond to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated October 19, 2005. A check in payment of the small entity petition fee for a five-month extension of time (\$1,080.00) is enclosed. Should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, or should an overpayment be included, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct or credit said fees to or from Fulbright & Jaworski Deposit Account No. 50-1212/TUUT:010USC1/MCB.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that these remarks fully address all outstanding matters for this application. With the filing of this document, Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment document filed on October 17, 2003, is now in compliance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121 or 1.4.

Should the Office desire to discuss this case, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at (512) 536-3018.

Respectfully submitted,



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